



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 2/12/2004

GAIN Report Number: IN4012

India

FAIRS Product Specific

Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2004

2004

Approved by:

Chad R. Russell
U.S. Embassy, FASNEWDELHI

Prepared by:

Santosh Kr. Singh

Report Highlights:

On February 6, 2004, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, issued a Gazette notification, Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2004, to amend certain provisions of recently notified Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003. The new Order may provide a limited concession for products of immediate interest to the United States, particularly almonds.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
New Delhi [IN1]
[IN]

Introduction:

This report summarizes the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2004 (PQO, 2004), which amends certain provisions of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 (PQO, 2003) (refer IN3126)

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Type of Regulation: Final.

Important Dates:

- **Publication Date:** February 6, 2004
- **Effective Date :** February 6, 2004

Products Affected: Several agricultural commodities, including almonds, pulses, fruits and vegetables.

Agency in Charge: Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI.

Proposed Changes:

The Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2004, can be accessed from the website: <http://agricoop.nic.in/gazette/enotice2004.pdf>. A cursory review of the new order indicates that the only revision that seems to offer some concession is clause 5 pertaining to an amendment in clause 15, sub-clause 2 of the PQO, 2003.

Clause 15 (2) of the PQO, 2003 originally read as:

"...., an import permit issued by any competent authority, which is in force immediately before the commencement of this Order **and which is consistent with this Order, shall continue in force** and all appointments made"

Clause 5 of PQO, 2004 revises the regulation to read as:

"...., an import permit issued by any competent authority, which is in force immediately before the commencement of this Order **shall continue in force till 31st March, 2004** and all appointments made"

This revision, thus, permits import shipments that have import permits issued before January 1, 2004, to come in up until March 31, 2004, without being subject to the import regulations specified under the PQO, 2003.

Post Comments: It appears that importers of almonds who have import permits issued prior to January 1, 2004, can bring in their consignments without fumigation by methyl bromide and without making additional declarations with respect to the two cited pests of concern (as required under PQO, 2003), up until March 31, 2004. However, import permits issued after January 1, 2004, would continue to be subject to the import requirements under PQO, 2003. Therefore, Post expects very limited relief to the U.S. almond industry, as most effected pending shipments are against import permits issued after December 31, 2003.

For More Information: Contact the plant Quarantine Organization of India website:
<http://plantquarantineindia.org>

This website is mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does **NOT** in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above site.